

CLAIMS

1. A monoclonal antibody reactive with a $\beta(1-3)$ -glucan associated epitope.
2. A monoclonal antibody according to claim 1,
5 wherein said antibody is reactive with a $\beta(1-3)$ -glucan associated epitope in free, non-associated form.
3. A monoclonal antibody according to claim 1, wherein said antibody is reactive with a $\beta(1-3)$ -glucan associated epitope in cell wall fragments.
- 10 4. A monoclonal antibody according to claim 3, wherein said $\beta(1-3)$ -glucan associated epitope is available in cell wall fragments of *C. albicans* and/or *C. neoformans*.
5. A monoclonal antibody according to any one of the
15 claims 1-4, wherein said antibody is B3B.
6. A monoclonal antibody according to claim 1, wherein said antibody is reactive with a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ -glucan associated epitope.
7. A monoclonal antibody according to claim 6,
20 wherein said antibody is reactive with a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ -glucan associated epitope in free, non-associated form.
8. A monoclonal antibody according to claim 6, wherein said antibody is reactive with a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ -glucan associated epitope in cell wall fragments.
- 25 9. A monoclonal antibody according to claim 8, wherein said $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ -glucan associated epitope is available in cell wall fragments of *C. albicans* and/or *C. neoformans*.
10. A monoclonal antibody according to any one of
30 the claims 1-9, wherein said antibody is A10A.
11. A monoclonal antibody according to claim 1, wherein said antibody is reactive with a $\beta(1-3)$ -glucan associated epitope available on an intact cell surface.
12. A monoclonal antibody according to claim 11,
35 wherein said $\beta(1-3)$ -glucan associated epitope is available on the cell surface of *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. krusei*, *C. glabrata* and/or *C. neoformans*.

13. A monoclonal antibody according to claim 6, wherein said antibody is reactive with a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ -glucan associated epitope available on an intact cell surface.

5 14. A monoclonal antibody according to claim 13, wherein said $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ -glucan associated epitope is available on the cell surface of *C. albicans*, *C. parapsi-*
losis, *C. krusei*, *C. glabrata* and/or *C. neoformans*.

10 15. A monoclonal antibody according to any one of the claims 11-14, wherein said antibody is A10A.

16. Use of at least one antibody according to any one of the claims 1-15 for the diagnosis of fungal infections.

15 17. Use of at least one antibody according to any one of the claims 1-15 for the detection of mould in air, water, dust or other components.

18. Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to any one of the claims 1-15.

20 19. Method for diagnosing fungal infections comprising performing an assay for the detection of $\beta(1-3)$ -glucans in a sample using a monoclonal antibody according to any one of the claims 1-15, wherein the presence of $\beta(1-3)$ -glucans indicates a fungal infection in said
25 patient.

20. Method for detecting mould comprising performing an assay for the detection of $\beta(1-3)$ -glucans in a sample using a monoclonal antibody according to any one of the claims 1-15, wherein the presence of $\beta(1-3)$ -glucans
30 indicates the presence of mould.